(a) whether the All India Manufacturers' Organisation has suggested that foreign investment should be encouraged only in high technical areas;

(b) if so, the details of other suggestions made by the Organisation;

(c) whether the Government have examined these suggestions; and

(d) if so, which of the these suggestions have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The other suggestions include adequate and timely availability of finance, simplification of labour laws, doing away with the policy of registration and change in laws and regulations governing constitution of small enterprises.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the new Industrial Policy proposals for foreign investment in industries other than high priority industries are not eligible for automatic clearance but will require the prior clearance of Government. It has not been found possible to do away with the system of registration of small scle units. The other suggestions have been taken up with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

Blending of Edible Oils

4580. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow private sector millers to blend various edible oils to be sold in small consumer packs;

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) the efforts being made for removing the prevailing disparity in prices of various oils in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Final notification in this regard has already been issued vide GSR 91 (E) dated 7th February, 92 of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

(c) Allowing the blending of edible oils is one of the measures designed to remove the prevailing disparity in the prices of various oils in the Market.

[*Translation*]

Assistance for Hill Areas

4581. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide several facilities to certain districts of every State which are located adjacent to hills by declaring them hill areas;

(b) if so, the nature of facilities provided;

(c) the names of such districts of Maharashtra which have been provided these facilities;

(d) whether the Government also propose to include other districts in hill areas; and

(e) if so, the names of such districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Memorandum by Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Udyog Sangathan

4582. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI SHARVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Udyog Sangathan presented a memorandum to the Union Government recently complaining ainstagainst the misuse of compensation money meant for the gas victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for speedy distribution of the compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The adjudicative process has started with the appointment of 3 Additional Commissioners and 5 Deputy Commissioners. The balance of the requisite number of judicial officers are expected to join as and when they are released by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. The Government have sanctioned 609 posts in various categories in addition to 380 posts already created earlier for the Office of the Welfare Commissioner. The State Government have handed over 25 Office buildings or the Deputy Commissioners and Additional Commissioners. Additional 15 buildings are expected to be handed over shortly. The Govt. also propose to issue indicative guidelines as required under the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Process of Claims) Scheme, 1985. The Welfare Commissioner also proposes to invite claims by issue of a notification. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned to the Welfare Commissioner for purchase of furniture and other office equipments.

Distribution of Fertilizer produced by I. F. F. C. O.

4583. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer produced by the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. is distributed in all the States;

(b) the quantity of fertilizers produced by IFFCO during each of the last three years years and the profits made therefrom;

(c) whether the tenure of the Board of Directors, IFFCO has since been over; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be reconstituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. The fertilizer produced by Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) is distributed only in the States for which it gets